

## **Arizona State Retirement System**

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## Special Notice

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It has come to the attention of the Arizona State Retirement System that several members, particularly teachers, have been receiving unsolicited email notifications and mailings from organizations seeking personal information and purporting to provide free advice and calculations of ASRS benefits.

Please be advised that the ASRS is not affiliated with any such organizations and is not responsible for these private solicitations. Further, the ASRS strongly cautions all members and retirees about providing personal information to persons or organizations that you do not know.

Recent unsolicited emails and mailings are stating that the ASRS pension benefit formula is under revision and asks recipients to reply with such information as name, date of birth, years of service, salary information and more. Some of these notices are making claims that persons can "increase their pensions without working more years" and that failing to act could "cost you up to 19% per month in retirement income."

The ASRS benefit formula is not under revision and members are again strongly cautioned about providing personal information or making decisions about their retirement funds based on such claims.

One organization is offering a free "Guide to ASRS." This booklet is not affiliated with or endorsed by the Arizona State Retirement System.

When making decisions about your retirement, particularly about your options for your ASRS pension benefits, the ASRS encourages members to speak with an ASRS Benefit Advisor or attend an ASRS Group Meeting, as well as discussing your plans with a trusted financial planner or financial institution and/or your tax advisor.

Please be aware that the ASRS does not send blanket email notifications to members and does not solicit personal information via email. Any official information from the ASRS is communicated to members through member newsletters or individual correspondence sent through the mail. Also, the ASRS does not make available mailing lists or member information to private organizations.

If you have any questions related to this matter, please contact our Member Services Division.